



Georgia Department of Transportation Fact Sheet

14th Street Bridge Improvement Project

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to replace the 14th Street Bridge over the Downtown Connector to relieve congestion at the 14th Street interchange. Without improvements to the 14th Street Bridge and ramps, the additional traffic generated by Atlantic Station and Midtown developments is expected to worsen the traffic safety and operations of this currently overburdened interchange. Additionally, the current pedestrian environment along 14th Street does not meet the standards established by the local Community Improvement District.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The improved bridge will feature two new exit ramps from the interstate: southbound to 10th Street and northbound to 17th Street. These additions will help to relieve congestion on the existing ramps. The project also includes pedestrian safety improvements along 14th Street. The project is scheduled to be completed in May 2010. The \$88.5 million contract was awarded to C. W. Matthews Contracting Company, Inc. of Marietta, GA in October 2006.

PROJECT SPECIFICS

Plans Involve:

- Lengthen and reconstruct the 14th Street Bridge to accommodate the new under passing northbound exit ramp. The new northbound exit ramp will depart from I-75/I-85 just south of the 14th Street Bridge. This ramp will cross under 14th Street and extend to 16th Street. At this point, Williams Street will cross under the exit ramp to reach the I-75 northbound on-ramp. The exit ramp will double-deck the lower level entrance ramp and connect directly with the 17th Street Bridge. **The 14th Street Bridge opened Sept. 3 2009. The new northbound ramp to 17th Street will open spring 2010**
- Williams Street will be relocated to the east to accommodate this new exit ramp.
- Dedicated turning lanes with additional storage capacity, a raised landscaped median, and 15-foot wide sidewalks will be added on the 14th Street Bridge and roadway approaches.
- Minor widening configuration changes will occur at the intersections of 16th Street at Williams Street and 14th Street at Fowler Street.
- New southbound ramp from I-85 to 10th Street will pass under the 14th Street Bridge – **Opened June 2009.**
- Roadway and intersection improvements on 14th Street between Spring Street and West Peachtree Street. A separate eastbound left-turn lane and a raised landscaped median will be added, and a 15-ft wide

sidewalk will be constructed along the south side of 14th Street. In order to minimize property impacts the existing 8-foot wide sidewalk will remain along the north side of 14th Street.

Lane Closures and Traffic Shifts

- In February 2009 traffic on 14th Street was restricted to one westbound lane between Crescent Avenue and Williams Street. This traffic shift and lane closure will be in place for approximately six months.
- In September 2008 traffic on I-85 southbound shifted to two outside (right lanes) onto Exit 84. These two lanes flow into a newly constructed section adjacent to the Interstate. They rejoin the mainline just before the 10th Street overpass. I-75 southbound traffic is reduced to one lane at the merge.
- In May 2008 14th Street closed to traffic. Traffic is detoured to the 17th Street Bridge. 14th Street and the 14th Street Bridge opened Sept. 3, 2009.
- In February 2008 Techwood Drive was closed to traffic between 16th Street and 10th Street. The roadway is opened Sept. 3, 2009.
- In October 2007 Williams Street was reduced to one lane of traffic between 10th Street and 16th Street. The lane closures will remain in place until spring 2010.
- Traffic on the Downtown Connector will be paced and lanes shifted to accommodate work throughout the course of the project.
- Traffic delays are to be expected. Please choose alternate modes of transportation, car- or van-pool or allow additional travel time and/or choose alternate routes during this construction project.